

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 23, and 32-52.

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 19-22, 24-31, 53, and 54 are allowable. The restriction requirement between inventions and among species, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 1/9/08, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). **The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.** Claims 19-22 and 24-31 are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim. However, claims 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 23, and 32-52 are withdrawn from consideration because they do not require all the limitations of an allowable claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

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Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims directed to inventions non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 23, and 32-52 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 19-22, 24-31, 53, and 54 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Amendment and arguments filed on 4/18/11 are persuasive in distinguishing the claimed invention from the prior art. Specifically, arguments are persuasive in identifying that Lee, Suzuki, and Watanabe do not teach the specific relationship of potentials and polarities and the relationship between the slit and the transparent pixel electrode and liquid crystal alignment direction control electrode (Remarks Pages 42-44).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL CALEY whose telephone number is (571)272-2286. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 a.m - 2:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571)272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael H. Caley/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2871